

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: The prices were stable.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: That is not correct, my dear friend. I have just given you the figures. In 2000-01, for 48 out of 52 weeks, the WPI was over six per cent; for 22 of those weeks, it was over 7 per cent; for 12 of those weeks, it was over 8 per cent...*(Interruptions)*.

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: चिदम्बरम साहब, गेहूँ और चीनी सस्ते थे। Let us acknowledge it.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Therefore, I reject this charge of mismanagement. There are both global factors and domestic factors which are impacting prices. The global factors are the crude oil prices in the early part of 2006, and then in the latter part, it was the commodity prices. The domestic factors are poor procurement of wheat and supply shortages emerging firstly in sugar and then in pulses. We have taken a number of steps, and I am confident that the WPI and other indices will moderate. As they did moderate in 2002-03, as they did moderate in 2005-06, it will moderate again as the new supplies come in, and the monetary steps take effect.

Development of potential tourism spots in Jharkhand

***105. SHRI KAMALAKHTAR:** Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified potential tourism spots in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, whether Government have any plans to develop potential tourism areas; and

(c) if so, what are the identified areas and proposed plans to develop tourist places?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) Development and promotion of tourism is undertaken primarily by the State Governments/UT Administrations. The Ministry of Tourism,

Government of India, extends financial assistance to the State Governments/ UT Administrations for tourism related projects which are identified in consultation and interaction with them under schemes for Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits Product/Infrastructure Development of Destinations and Assistance to Large Revenue Generating Projects.

Project proposals received from the State Governments/Union Territories that are complete in all respect are examined as per scheme guidelines and sanctioned on the basis of *inter-se* priority and funds released subject to availability under the respective head. An amount of Rs. 824.88 lakh has been sanctioned in the year 2006-07 for Jharkhand.

A list of projects sanctioned for Jharkhand in the year 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 is given in the Statement-I.

Statement-I

Projects sanctioned to the State of Jharkhand during the year 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07.

Rs. in Lakhs

Sl. No.	Name of Project/Scheme	Amount sanctioned
1	2	3
2003-04		
1.	Integrated Development of Madhubani and Parasnath in Giridih	393.00
2.	Integrated Development Jamshedpur-Ranchi-Betla-Daltonganj-Ranchi-Jamshedpur Tourist Circuit in Jharkhand	716.00
TOTAL:		1109.00
2004-05		
1.	Integrated Development of Massanjore (Distt. Dumka)	493.25
2.	Development of Tirthankar-Bodhisatwa Circuit	494.57
TOTAL:		987.82

1	2	3
2005-06		
1.	Hazaribagh Cultural-cum-Adventure Festival, 2006	5.00
2.	Adventure Tourism Festival, 2005 Ghatshila, Jamshedpur	4.20
3.	Hijla Tribal Rural Festival, 2006 at Dumka	2.50
4.	Integrated Development of Tourist Circuit Ranchi-Netarhat-Betla-Ranchi	798.00
5.	Integrated Development of Deoghar (Distt. Deoghar) under Destination Development Scheme	417.57
TOTAL:		1227.27
2006-07		
1.	Integrated Development of Tourist Circuit 'Ranchi-Rajrappa-Hazaribagh-Itkhor' in Jharkhand	775.78
2.	Information Technology in the State Tourism Department of Jharkhand	49.10
TOTAL:		824.88

श्री कमाल अख्तर: चेयरमैन साहब, माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपना विस्तृत जवाब सभा पटल पर रखा है। यह अच्छा है कि झारखंड की पर्यटन परियोजनाओं के लिए आपने झारखंड को इतना धन दिया है। तो मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जिस तरह से पर्यटन विकास की योजनाओं के लिए झारखंड को धन उपलब्ध कराया गया है, उसी तरह से उत्तर प्रदेश की जो बहुत सारी योजनाएं आपके यहां लंबित हैं, उनके लिए भी क्या आपका इस तरह का कोई कार्यक्रम है और क्या आप उत्तर प्रदेश को भी वहां के पर्यटन विकास के लिए धन उपलब्ध करा रहे हैं?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, I must first thank the hon. Member for having complimented the efforts we have made in the case of Jharkhand. ... (Interruptions) ... Sir, these programmes are primarily demand-driven. We keep in touch with the State Governments to promote tourism, and programmes are organised and devised in consultation with the State Governments. In the case of U.P., last year we provided Rs. 38.92 crores. We will certainly provide more money, if the State Government comes forward with programmes. That is the key point.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that it is being reported in Andhra Pradesh, in

his own State, that the tribal women who performed before the foreign tourists have been reported HIV-positive. In the written reply of the hon. Minister and also on the television there is a great enthusiasm on promoting rural tourism. The hon. Minister has said about the Dumka Tribal Festival in his written answer also. Sir, Jharkhand is predominantly a tribal area. Now, what precaution is the Government taking in its enthusiasm in selling India's tourism in the country? What is the Government's proposal in the light of that report?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, I appreciate the concern expressed by the senior Member. I am not aware of this particular incident which she is referring to in Andhra Pradesh. I can only say that we need to be alert about this. I cannot immediately tell you about the precautions, but we will instruct the Ministry and the Department concerned to be on the alert against this kind of a problem.

Airborne collisions in crowded skies

*106. SHRI DEVDAS APTE:†
SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that near misses between aeroplanes in the crowded skies have increased three - fold in the last five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps Government have taken so far to avoid airborne collision; and

(d) the steps Government will take to avoid any such incident arising due to the fatigue of Air Traffic Controllers and pilots?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The rate of air proximity incidents per one lakh movements, when aircraft had come in close proximity due to breakdown of standard

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Devdas Apte.